(d) the steps taken to offset this negative AMS to agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. The average product specific Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) during the base period i.e. 1980-89 was about Rs. minus 24,442.20 crores and the non-product specific AMS was estimated at Rs. 4581.40 crores and the total AMS was, therefore, minus Rs. 19,860.00 crores.

(b) The AMS was calculated for the reference period of 1986-89 only, as required under the GATT.

(c) Not relevant.

(d) The AMS was calculated for the base period i.e. 1986-89. Since the AMS for the base period was negative, India did not have to take any reduction commitment.

Telephone Service for providing reservation status

630. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways have introduced some telephone service in Delhi and outside providing reservation status to passengers on waiting list;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a telephone service has also been introduced in Delhi and outside providing information on arrivals and departures of all trains either originating or passing from Delhi/ New Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof, for Delhi and outside;

(e) telephone service if any, introduced by railway in Delhi and outside for providing information to passengers about the train numbers, class and dates for which confirmed reservation is available including waiting status; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Computerised Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) has been installed for Delhi Area, Mumbai, Vijayawada, Madras, Bangalore and Calcutta for answering telephonic enquiries relating to reservation status. In this System, there is a direct interface with the computerised system and the person making enquiry is guided and prompted to provide relevant details of the query to the system to enable it to provide the requisite reply. Also, at all important principal reservation/enquiry offices necessary information sought by public on phone is given by the Enquiry Clerks manning telephones.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The train arrival and departure information is given by:

(i) the IVRS service which gives computer generated response. This is available at Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, Visakhapatinam, Raipur, Chakradharpur and Rourkela,

(ii) the pre-tape recorded information system; and

(iii) Enquiry Clerks on telephone.

(e) and (f) Facilities are available at all major stations for answering such reservation related enquiries on telephones manned by Enquiry Clerks. Besides, IVRS has been installed on an experimental basis for answering such enquiries at Madras and Bangalore.

Production of Pulses

631. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) wether it is a fact that production of pulses in the country is much less as compared to its demand;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons therefore;

(c) whether Government have formulated any long-term policy to increase the production of pulses in the country;

(d) if so, what are the full details thereof and if not, what are the main reasons therefor; and

(e) what necessary and concrete measures are being taken by Government to curb the rising price of pluses?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b)